

C. Remarks

In response to the Final Office Action dated April 6, 2004, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of the application based on the foregoing claim amendments and the following remarks. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance. In the Office Action, claims 1-41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,504,907 to Farris et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants have amended claims 1, 10, 19, 27, 32, 33, 37, and 41 and have cancelled claims 20 and 40 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein. In particular. Applicants have amended claims 1, 10, 19, 27, 32, 33, 37, and 41 as follows to overcome the rejection:

Claims 1, 10, 19, 32, 37, and 41

Applicants have amended Claim 1 to clarify that the method includes:

receiving one or more dial digits from a plurality of remote telecommunication devices at a plurality of corresponding switches in communication with a switch master;

transmitting the one or more dial digits from the plurality of switches to the switch master, wherein the switch master is in communication with computer system;

transmitting the one or more dial digits from the switch master to the computer system . . .

Applicants respectfully submit that Farris fails to anticipate amended claim 1 for at least the following reasons. First, Applicants submit that Farris fails to disclose the use of or the functionality of a “switch master” in communication with both the switches and the computer system, as recited in amended claim 1. Second, Applicants submit that Farris fails to disclose, that the switch master receives dial digits from a plurality of switches and that the switch master communicates the plurality of dial digits to the computer system. There is no direct accessing of

dial digits by the computer to the switch. Rather, the switch master collects the dial digits and then transmits them to the computer system for further processing, such as, “storing . . . the . . . dial digits in a table within the database” and “searching the database for one or more dial digits associated with a telecommunication system,” as recited in amended claim 1. Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 1 and claims 2-9, which depend from claim 1, are not anticipated by Farris and are in condition for allowance.

Applicants have amended Claims 10, 19, 32, 37 and 41 to include features similar to those in amended claim 1. Applicants have cancelled claim 20, thereby rendering the rejection with respect thereto moot. Therefore, Applicants submit that as amended, claims 10, 19, 32, 37 and 41, as well as their respective dependent claims 11-18, 21-26, 38 and 39, are not anticipated by Farris and also are in condition for allowance.

Claim 27

Applicants respectfully submit that Farris fails to anticipate claim 27 for at least the following reasons. First, Farris does not disclose:

receiving one or more dial digits from a plurality of remote telecommunication devices at a plurality of corresponding switches in communication with a switch master;

transmitting the one or more dial digits from the plurality of switches to the switch master, wherein the switch master is in communication with computer system;

receiving the one or more telephone call records from the switch master into a computing system . . .

As recited in amended claim 27. Second, Farris fails to disclose “inputting into the computer system an identifier,” as recited in claim 27. Third, Farris fails to disclose, “generating a report based on the identifier,” as recited in claim 27. Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 27, and claims 28-31, which depend from claim 27, are not anticipated by Farris and are in condition for allowance.

Claim 33

Applicants have amended claim 33 to recite:

a plurality of telecommunication switches;
a switch master in communication with the plurality of
telecommunication switches . . .

Which is not disclosed by Farris. Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that Farris fails to anticipate amended claim 33 for at least the following reasons. First, Farris does not disclose, “a switch master in communication with a plurality of telecommunication switches,” as recited in amended claim 33. Second, Farris does not disclose:

one or more sets of computer instructions configured to be executed by the computing system, the one or more sets of computer instructions being operative with the computing system to perform acts selected from the group consisting of setting one or more storage tables to a known state, checking the status of the one or more sets of executing computer instructions, providing a real-time summary of the telecommunication call records, providing an output report based on a telecommunication device number, providing an output report based on a telecommunication device identification number, and providing an output report based on a number of digits dialed by the telecommunication device.

as recited in claim 33. Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 33 and claims 34-36, which depend from Claim 33, are not anticipated by Farris and are in condition for allowance.

Claim 40

Applicants have cancelled claim 40 and, therefore, the rejection with respect thereto is rendered moot.

Applicants are not otherwise conceding, however, the correctness of the Office’s rejection with respect to any of the dependent claims discussed above and hereby reserves the right to make additional arguments as may be necessary because the dependent claims include additional features that further distinguish the claims from the cited references, taken alone or in

combination. A detailed discussion of these differences is believed to be unnecessary at this time in view of the basic differences in the independent claims pointed out above.

D. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for the pending claims in the present application. If the Examiner is of the opinion that the present application is in condition for disposition other than allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below in order that the Examiner's concerns may be expeditiously addressed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roberto Capriotti', written over a horizontal line.

Roberto Capriotti
Reg. No. 46,599
Customer No. 26285

KIRKPATRICK & LOCKHART, LLP
Henry W. Oliver Building
535 Smithfield Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

Tel. (412) 355-8956
Fax (412) 355-6501